



**STATE OF HAWAI‘I
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**REPORT ON PUBLIC EDUCATION
2011-2012**

JUNE 19, 2012

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On April 26, 2011, the nine-member Board of Education (BOE), appointed by Governor Neil Abercrombie, met for the first time moving the State of Hawai'i in a new era of accountability for our public schools.

The BOE focused its efforts on changes in the following areas:

Student Achievement

Service Support Improvements

Staff Development



After one full school year of overseeing public education, BOE members provided the following report on the actions taken to improve the success of public schools for students, teachers, parents and the community.

2011-2012 BOE RESET PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION



- **Govern public education effectively by focusing on policy, strategic objectives and student achievement** so that students become educated and inspired lifelong learners who reach their individual aspirations in order to contribute positively to our community and global society.
- **Build public confidence by establishing high expectations that improve student achievement, resulting in significant, noticeable changes for students, teachers and families** by providing support to meet high expectations and holding everyone accountable to ensure rich, relevant and rigorous education with positive outcomes for individual students and for Hawai'i's future.

GOVERN PUBLIC EDUCATION EFFECTIVELY WITH FOCUS ON POLICY AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Received and considered **more than 500 public testimony submissions** about BOE action items.
- **Engaged students** in decision-making via the Hawai‘i State Student Council.
- Established a new, **more inclusive process** to select the BOE’s student member.
- Based decisions on **feedback from stakeholders**, including parents, principals and teachers via regular meetings with HE‘E, a coalition of family and community-oriented groups, principal groups and teachers.
- **Responded promptly** to public concerns addressed to the BOE — more than 100 concerns received a response within 10 days.
- Provided **better public access** to information about BOE through timely posting of board agendas, materials and minutes.



***BOE active in communities
across the state***

BOE reorganized and repositioned itself to advance public education goals:

- Created a single strategic plan for the BOE and DOE.
- With Legislature approval, reduced the BOE budget by approximately \$500,000 by eliminating BOE staff from nine to three, and BOE members' stipend payments for attending meetings.
- Audited BOE policies and participated in audit of HRS (SB2540).
- Completed comprehensive independent risk assessment of DOE and three-year audit plan.

Appointed new senior leadership to lead DOE and established performance-based evaluation for senior leaders:

- Three-year appointment of superintendent
- New chief financial officer
- New assistant superintendent for human resources
- New assistant superintendent for curriculum, instruction and student support
- Five new complex area superintendents (of 15 total)



BOE members convene to discuss and implement new policy to improve student achievement and realize significant, noticeable changes for Hawai'i's students, teachers and families.

RELENTLESS FOCUS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Tackled tough issues facing public education, especially in light of prolonged state fiscal challenges and constrained budgets:

- Required DOE to maximize service to students in light of budget reductions for student transportation.
- Engaged with the Hawai‘i State Teachers Association (HSTA) to discuss key educational issues resulting in a February 27, 2012, agreement for extended learning time for the state’s most challenged schools.
- Signed a long awaited agreement with HGEA to begin a principal performance contract.
- Focused on reallocating resources and developing systems that will support effective teaching and learning.

Approved DOE reorganization of state offices to improve effectiveness and efficiency of support for school improvement:

- Designated deputy superintendent as “chief academic officer.”
- Designated responsibilities for a “chief operations officer” to a “senior assistant superintendent.”
- Established clear, delegated authority to complex area superintendents for K-12 education in their communities.
- Reorganized state offices for maximum organizational function.

Partnered with other state agencies and community organizations to improve opportunities for our students and educators. Among other examples:

- University of Hawai‘i’s (UH) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant will provide high speed broadband Internet access for all public schools and libraries by 2014.
- Microsoft Corporation provides training and certification opportunities via the HI Tech Academy in all public libraries.
- Kamehameha Schools supports the Zones of School Innovation with support for literacy in the primary grades and for Nanakuli and Waianae’s New Tech High initiatives.
- Hawai‘i Community Foundation is investing in better DOE communication to inform its employees and the community.
- Hawai‘i 3Rs and AT&T Corporation provided STEM carts to make science education more engaging and relevant.
- U.S. Department of Education Race to the Top funds support system development and innovations, including new training and certification opportunities to become teachers and principals.
- Incorporated student achievement goals in Hawai‘i State Public Libraries’ Strategic Plan and State Librarian’s objectives/evaluations.

2011-2012 Public School Highlights

Graduated **11,000 students**
(class of 2012).

More than **400 students** recognized
nationally and internationally for
excellence and achievement.

Washington Middle School named **AVID
National Demonstration School**.

Five Hawai'i public school graduates
(including three from Hana High School)
named **Gates Millennium Scholars**.

Six Hawai'i public schools recognized in the
**Washington Post's 2012 High School
Challenge Index**, which ranks the nation's
top 9 percent of schools for effectively
preparing students for college.

Leilehua High School JROTC team earned
Top Service Award from the U.S. Army at
The National High School Cyber
Defense Competition.

**Hawai'i was the only state to improve
performance in every tested subject and
grade**, according to the National Assessment
of Educational Progress.

Waianae High School Searider Productions
named **Apple Distinguished School**.

Kealakehe High senior Candonino Agusen
honored as one of **America's top 10 youth
volunteers** in the 2012 Prudential Spirit of
Community Awards.

BUILDING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

**Established plans to support students,
teachers and leaders to meet the high
expectations and be accountable for
achieving results for all students in public
schools:**

- New, higher graduation requirements implemented beginning with incoming ninth graders.
- New charter school governance and accountability structure that provides opportunity to increase number of high quality charter schools in the state.
- New performance management system, including new BOE policies on performance evaluation, compensation and tenure (82 schools are participating in 2012-2013 pilot programs).

***“We worked on a number of
changes for student achievement
and there are more positive
changes to come.”***

Don Horner, BOE Chairman



The BOE joins members of the Abercrombie Administration at a community meeting at Washington Middle School in Honolulu.

SIGNIFICANT, NOTICEABLE CHANGES

- Implemented new reporting systems for student data that provides just-in-time/real-time data about student progress so that teachers and principals can identify students needing additional support.
- Completed a comprehensive analysis of Special Education Programs.
- Partnered with Microsoft Corporation to make certification training courses available online via our state library system.
- Approved new statewide requirements for incoming ninth graders with a focus on high school success.
- Partnered with UH on a \$36 million federal grant to upgrade the communications fiber to all schools and state libraries for high speed broadband access by 2014.
- Introduced new policies and support for teacher and principal evaluations that include measures of student learning and growth and other measures of professional performance.
- Reached agreement with HSTA to provide approximately 13,400 students with more learning time and 1,300 teachers with more time for training and planning in 19 high-need schools in the 2012-2013 school year.

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